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that child or eyeglasses.

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Chambers, let me answer as best I can. Let me, also, with your permission, add a point or two. May I say first of all, in preface to any discussion we have and I'd also answer Senator Cavanaugh who began to ask a question in regard to this, this language, as you find before you, as I understand, is the law in 36 to 38 other states. This specific law which does not refer to any specific religion because if it did, as far as I am concerned, it would be violating the first amendment. There is nothing in this law, as far as I am concerned, or in this amendment which stands which allows anybody to abuse their children. That isn't the purpose of the amendment at all, or to allow people to get by with abuse and if there...and I think I said before and if I don't answer your question, I know you will come back at me.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So far...I wish you would answer it and then you can take your time because I only get ten minutes and you have another ten to speak.

SENATOR MARVEL: All right. Ask your question again, then.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If a child has failing or defective eyesight and the parents want to treat that child's condition by prayer alone and the child's eyes continue to fail but say eyeglasses would help correct the situation and maybe prevent it from deteriorating, could the state order that eyeglasses be given to the child?

SENATOR MARVEL: As far as I am concerned, they could. May I also say this and if I use too much of your time, you can use some of mine.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: OK.

SENATOR MARVEL: Because this is just as serious to me as it is to you. In the same measure that the state could require my parents at the time I was eleven and found out I couldn't see too well, I am not too sure the state could require my parents to buy eyeglasses for me but I see nothing in this that would stand between the law and the child that we are talking about.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Marvel, and this is a personal question which you know you don't have to answer, are you a Christian Scientist?

SENATOR MARVEL: No, but I have studied the religion for about 10 years and I am sincerely interested in it and I have also met with a number of people who are sincere and I respect them for their religious views just like I respect you for yours.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Or lack thereof, in my case.

SENATOR MARVEL: Well, you have religious views whether it is a lack of or addition to.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Marvel, do you believe that prayer can correct physical ailments?